

As an American, I go to the BBC for my news. Why? Because I find that American news organizations don't present anything resembling an impartial view of reality. Sinclair Broadcasting's decision to force their stations to air an anti-Kerry documentary days before the election is a clear example of the dangers of media consolidation, as their own business concerns are far outstripping concern for the public.

Sinclair uses the public airwaves free of charge, and is obligated by law to serve the public interest. But when large companies control the airwaves, we get more of what's good for the bottom line and less of what we need for our democracy. Democracy isn't about the voices of those who have the most funding being the most heard. However, huge broadcasting empires like Sinclair offer exactly that.

Sinclair's actions show why we need to strengthen media ownership rules, not weaken them. They show why the license renewal process needs to involve more than a returned postcard. Thank you.